

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

# N.E.W.S

---

## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

---

For more information contact Amy Rezzonico, Press Secretary (602) 542-5072

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Thursday, January 22, 2009

### **STUDENTS EXCEEDING ON AIMS ATTEND COLLEGE FREE AND OUTPERFORM OTHER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

PHOENIX (Thursday, January 22, 2009) -- Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne announces a major increase in high school students statewide qualifying for the AIMS High Honors Tuition Scholarship. The scholarship requires that a student must exceed on the AIMS test and meet other academic requirements. In 2006, 2,489 students qualified for the scholarship, and in 2008, 4,338 qualified for the scholarship. 2006 was the first year that scholarships were awarded to the three state universities (ASU, UofA, and NAU).

Horne stated: "Arizona students and parents are taking the AIMS test seriously not only for graduation requirements but as an avenue for meeting post secondary education costs."

The AIMS tuition scholarship students are academically outperforming other students attending state universities under other merit awards. For example, AIMS students have a higher grade point average (GPA) and scholarship renewal rate.

Arizona students that qualify and utilize the AIMS High Honors Tuition Scholarship can receive over \$5,000 a year depending on the attending university tuition costs. This scholarship is guaranteed to students for the first year and is renewable for an additional three years pending university requirements. The AIMS tuition scholarship can carry over a \$20,000 value.

Horne added: "The excitement the AIMS tuition scholarship creates is extremely high and our Department's email and phones are flooded with questions about the program."

For more information about the AIMS High Honors Tuition Scholarship, go to [www.ade.az.gov](http://www.ade.az.gov) and under Hot Topics click on Honors Endorsement/Tuition Scholarships.

###